

EASTERN RAILROADS
PROPOSE WAGE CUTS
AFFECTING 750,000

Reductions Will Wipe Out
the 22 1/2 Per Cent. Ad-
vance Made in 1920.

PRESS FOR DECISION

Conferences With Employ-
ees on Amounts to Precede
Labor Board Action.

COST DATA COMPILED

Certification by End of Janu-
ary or Early in Febru-
ary Likely.

More than 200 operating and super-
visory officials of the fifty-two rail-
roads operating north of the Ohio
River and east of the Mississippi met
yesterday at Grand Central Terminal
to determine the extent to which the
carriers will propose cuts in the pay
of their 750,000 employees in carry-
ing out the decision of the railway ex-
ecutives to effect a general revision of
the wages. The wage reduction in
most cases, it was indicated, will wipe
out the last of the 22 1/2 per cent. ad-
vance granted in 1920.

The railroad managements already
had notified the men of their intention
to readjust wages. Yesterday's meet-
ing concerned itself with the assem-
bling and correlation of data on living
costs and wages in non-transportation
industries to be used in the approach-
ing conferences with representatives
of the workers and subsequently when
the disputes are carried to the United
States Railroad Labor Board for final
decision.

Conferences the Next Step.

The next step will be notifications
next week to the various classes of rail-
way employees of the amount of the
proposed reductions and the setting of
dates for conferences between their rep-
resentatives and the railway managers.
It is believed that these conferences will
be held under way on Monday and
Tuesday of the first of the year and that
the majority of the resulting disputes will
have been certified to the Railroad Labor
Board by the end of January or early
February.

As a result of decisions arrived at
yesterday the carriers will propose that
the present hourly pay of 77 cents,
bolshermakers, sheet metal workers,
coppersmiths, electricians, machinists
be reduced to 62 cents, or 5 1/2 cents less
than the rate which the Western roads
intend to propose for similar classes of
men. The Eastern roads will ask
freight car repairmen to take a cut of
10 cents, or a hourly rate of 52 cents.

The Official Point of View.

At the close of yesterday's meeting
J. J. Walker, chief of the bureau of in-
formation for Eastern railways, issued
a statement which said in part:
"The meeting of the chief operating
officials of the Eastern railroads was
held to consider the results of investi-
gations which have been conducted by
the United States Railroad Labor Board
concerning the rates of pay in
outside industries. These investigations
have been conducted as a part of the
movement for the reduction of the wages
of railroad employees, which the rail-
roads find will be necessary to reduce
their operating costs in order to meet
the demands for reductions in the freight
rates."

The railroads propose to request the
employees to agree to a reduction in the
wage scales so as to establish them
practically upon the basis in effect prior
to the increases which were granted by
the United States Railroad Labor Board
effective May 1, 1920. So far as the oc-
cupations in outside industries are com-
parable with those in the railroad ser-
vice, the rates in such industries have
been taken into account in deciding upon
the rates which the railroads will re-
quest, but as there are no occupations in
outside industries comparable with those
in the engine and train service, it was
decided to request the employees to
agree to the restoration of the rates in
effect immediately prior to May 1, 1920."

'BLUEBEARD' LANDRU
IS DANGEROUSLY ILL
Convicted Woman Slayer Re-
mains in Paris Cell.

PARIS, Dec. 9.—Henri Desire Landru,
convicted "Bluebeard of Gambais,"
is dangerously ill in his cell.
The prisoner was found guilty last
week of murder in the first degree and
sentenced to death after a sensational
trial. He was charged with the murder
of ten women, to whom he is said to
have promised marriage, and the son of
one of the women.

ARMY AND NATION BACK
GRIFFITH AND COLLINS
ON ANGLO-IRISH PACT

Sinn Fein Intellectuals and Poets Begin Bitter Fight, but
Press and Most of Public Hope Dail Eireann Will
Ratify Agreement—De Valera in Note Yields
Leadership of Peace Move to Griffith.

DUBLIN, Dec. 9.—The whole weight of every political factor that in
any other country would warrant political prognostication is tonight in
favor of the ratification by the Dail Eireann Parliament of the peace
treaty with Great Britain. But there are two factors against it. These
two are the young intellectuals of Sinn Fein and certain women, to whom
the martyrdom of Irish heroes has come very close. The one has been
the soul and the other the heart of Sinn Fein. There is hardly a man
or woman of them who is not a poet. They are working on their country-
men and women to-night and their countrymen and women are Irish.

With them stand such women as Padraic Pearse's mother, Mrs. O'Cal-
laghan, the widow of that Lord Mayor of Limerick, who, Sinn Fein insists,
was murdered by the forces of the Crown, and the widow and the sister of
Terence MacSwiney, the poet mayor of Cork, who starved himself in a
London prison. And beside them stand hundreds of other women through-
out the country who have lost husbands and brothers and sons in the fight-
ing, or who, themselves as girl scouts, the Cumann Na Mban, have been
actually in the fighting.

The army, the church, the press, the two most popular figures in to-
day's Irish history, "Mick" Collins and "Red" Mulcahy, and apparently a
bare majority of the Cabinet are for peace. It is a noteworthy fact that
the sentiment for resistance is strongest among those upon whom, as
women and intellectuals, will not fall the burden of cold winter nights in
the hedgerows and ditches, on duty as members of the Irish army.

Among the irreconcilables stands De Valera, whose enemies call him a
Spaniard; Cathal Brugha, whose real English name is Charles Bruc-
ceus, and Erskine Childers, a former British naval officer, and his Ameri-
can wife. With them also is Desmond Fitzgerald, whom the Morning Post
calls Norman French rather than Irish.

The intellectuals do not like the idea
of anything saving of a compromise
with principle or playing with terms.
But the final argument they are using
in the political battle now going on
is this:

If Ireland, never so strong again as
she is at this moment, again permits
herself to be put under British domi-
nation, no matter how benevolent that
domination is at the present time,
there can be no future guarantee that
the all too frequent story of British
oppression will not some day be re-
peated. They want absolute freedom
because they then believe that the
nations of the world, and above all
the United States, would take inter-
national action to prevent Britain
again stepping into Ireland.

4 EX-FEDERAL MEN
IN DRY INDICTMENTS

One City Employee of Newark
Also Named With Ten
Others.

HUGE GRAFT IS ALLEGED

Officials Said to Have Re-
ceived \$2,000 Each for Rid-
ing on Booze Truck.

Four former United States officials
and an executive clerk in the Newark
Department of Parks and Public Prop-
erty, together with ten other persons,
were indicted yesterday by the Fed-
eral Grand Jury in Newark on charges
alleging various conspiracies in viola-
tion of the Volstead act. There are
eight indictments against the fifteen
individuals, and some of those named
are mentioned in several of the in-
dictments.

One indictment charges conspiracy
to sell liquor. Two others charge con-
spiracy to induce illegal transpor-
tation of liquor. The Newark post office
is mentioned in the indictment. Louis
G. Beekman, Deputy United States
Marshal in Jersey City, now under
suspension, endeavored to influence
witnesses before the Grand Jury. A
fifth charges him with extortion and
receiving money as an employee of
the Government, and the sixth charges
Beekman and others with receiving
money while posing in official ca-
pacities that they did not fill. Beek-
man's name appears in each of these
six indictments.

There is a separate indictment against
Max L. Stegman of the Newark De-
partment of Parks, charging him with
attempted bribery of a clerk in the reg-
istry office of the Newark post office
in an effort to obtain registered mar-
riage licenses. The indictment also
addressed to the New Jersey State Pro-
secutor and containing a large
number of liquor withdrawal permits.
Another man named with him on a
supplementary indictment.

SINN FEIN ARMY HEADS
FAVORABLE TO TREATY

Nation Is Surprised at De Va-
lera's Repudiation.

DUBLIN, Dec. 9 (Associated Press).—
The sensation following the revelation of
a split in the Dail Eireann Cabinet over
ratification of the Anglo-Irish treaty
yielded to a more calm attitude here
tonight. There seems to be ground for
the belief that Arthur Griffith, who
headed the delegation which signed the
agreement in London, will have a suf-
ficient following at the meeting of the
Dail tomorrow.

DEMAND THAT HYLAN
PROBE BREAKING UP
OF SANGER MEETING

Prominent Citizens Ask In-
quiry Into Birth Control
Assemblage Arrests.

'FREE SPEECH MENACED'

Conspiracy by Police to Sub-
vert Rights of Citizens
Is Seen.

'OUTRAGES' DENOUNCED

Appeal Signed by Persons Not
Actively Identified With
Movement.

A letter signed by Paul D. Cravath,
Henry Morgenthau, Herbert L. Sat-
terlee, Lewis L. Deland, Charles C.
Burlingham, Samuel H. Ordway, Pierre
Jay, Paul M. Warburg, Charles Strauss
and Montgomery Hare was sent to
Mayor John F. Hylan yesterday de-
manding an immediate and public in-
vestigation of the action of the Police
Department in breaking up a birth con-
trol meeting in the Town Hall on
November 13, and in arresting Mrs.
Juliet Barrett Rublee on December 2.

The letter declares that the action of
the police constitutes such a willful
violation of the right of free speech
as to cause grave alarm to the people
of New York. It follows:

"The undersigned, none of whom have
taken part in the advocacy of birth con-
trol, call your attention to the grave and
flagrant interference with the right of
free speech which has recently been prac-
ticed by the Police Department of this
city and respectfully ask for a public
investigation of the causes of this inter-
ference, to the end that the right of free
speech may be safeguarded.

Action Not Justified.

"You are doubtless already acquainted
with the fact that on the evening of No-
vember 13 the police of the Twenty-
sixth precinct, acting, we understand,
under the direct command of Capt.
Thomas Donohue, forcibly closed a pub-
lic meeting which had gathered at the
Town Hall, 121 West Forty-third street,
Borough of Manhattan, for an oral dis-
cussion of a question of public policy and
morals. We are advised that without
any warrant or legal authority justify-
ing his action, Capt. Donohue arrested
two ladies, and in spite of their protests
caused them to be taken to the police
station and thence to the Magistrate's
Court, where they were promptly dis-
charged.

"A second offence was of an even
more flagrant nature. It occurred on
December 2, in the unjustifiable and in-
excusable arrest of Mrs. Juliet Barrett
Rublee. After having testified as a
witness in an inquiry before Chief In-
specter Lahey into the action of the
Police Department in connection with
the Town Hall meeting of November 13,
Mrs. Rublee was arrested by Patrolman
Thomas J. Murphy by the direction, we
are informed, of Assistant Corporation
Counsel Martin Dolphin, who was pre-
sent as Inspector Lahey's adviser. The
arrest of Mrs. Rublee was so completely
without justification or excuse that the
Assistant District Attorney acknowl-
edged in open court that there was no
evidence to support a charge of any kind
and Magistrate Hattin promptly re-
leased Mrs. Rublee.

Grave Alarm Occasioned.

"The action of the Police Department
above referred to constitutes such a wil-
ful violation of the right of free speech
as to cause grave alarm to the citizens
of New York, who have a right to know
why such outrages have taken place,
what influences and motives are behind
them and whether any conspiracy exists
in the Police Department to deny the
right of free speech and the equal pro-
tection of the law to citizens of New
York. This is obviously a matter of the
gravest concern.

"We therefore join in asking a full,
immediate and public investigation of
the action of the Police Department in
the premises, to be followed, if the evi-
dence warrants, by disciplinary action
against the officials found to be guilty
as will discourage similar offend-
ences hereafter."

CHICAGO 'U' WOMEN
MUST QUIET SMOKING

Too Much of It in Dormito-
ries, House Mothers Say.

CHICAGO, Dec. 9.—President Harry
Pratt Judson banned smoking in
women's dormitories at the University
of Chicago today.

CALL PLenary SESSION TO-DAY
FOR FOUR POWER PACIFIC PLAN;
CHINA-JAPAN AGREEMENT NEAR

JAIL BREAK LEADER
AT BAY, SHOT BY PAL

Tom Slaughter, Noted Killer,
Near Capture When Bullet
Ends His Life.

POSSES GET COMPANIONS

Seven in Little Rock, Ark.,
Prison Disarmed Guards and
Locked Them in Cells.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 9 (Associated
Press).—Tom Slaughter, desperado,
came to the end of his long career of
crime to-night in the Saline county
jail. He was shot from behind by
one of the white men whom he led to
liberty from the State penitentiary
here this morning.

The report of Slaughter's death was
confirmed late to-night by Sheriff J. J.
Crow of Saline county, leader of one
of the posses on the killer's trail.

Not only is Slaughter dead, but one
of the negroes who fled the prison
with him in the spectacular escape this
morning is dying in the hills beside
the bandit's body, while the white
companion who shot him and the
three other negroes are in custody.

The man who killed Slaughter is J.
C. Howard, who was serving a three
year term for forgery. Howard, ac-
cording to a statement he made at
the Benton jail late to-night, had been
waiting to turn upon Slaughter.

"I left with him with the intention
of killing him the first chance I got,"
he is quoted as saying.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 9.—Tom
Slaughter, one of the most daring band-
its and killers the Southwest has pro-
duced in many years, and four of six
convicts who escaped with him from the
State penitentiary here early this morn-
ing, after he had locked the warden and
several keepers in cells, were trapped
to-night on a mountain in Saline county,
about thirty miles south of Little Rock.
Poses from Little Rock, Benton and
Hot Springs surrounded the mountain
and closed in upon the convicts, who
saw Slaughter or any of his companions.

All the escaped convicts, especially
Slaughter, who was under sentence to
die December 16, were regarded as de-
perate men and were well armed with
revolvers and knives. Slaughter and
the keepers of the penitentiary.

Four of the negroes who went with
him are also under death sentence for
participation in the Elaine riots.
Slaughter had been carefully watched
since he was sent to prison for what
authorities throughout the Southwest
hoped would be the last time, but in
the morning he called for a guard and
asked for an extra blanket.

Disarms Guard in Cell.

When the guard came he covered the
man with the gun and disarmed him.
Then he forced the guard to walk ahead
of him in the stockade, where he over-
powered the guard on duty. The
guards he locked them in the cells and
Slaughter took their keys and
literally ruled the prison for several
hours.

Jangling his keys he went from cell
to cell opening all the doors and invit-
ing all the convicts to escape. Only six
took advantage of the offer, four negroes
and two white men, and the gang easily
overpowered the on-duty guards re-
maining within the prison.

With this accomplished Slaughter was
in control of the whole place. He went
in the office and threw the papers about,
and after awhile he decided to lock up
all the guards, which he did. Then he
went into the prison hospital and forced
a nurse to show him the way to the
apartments, just outside the walls, occu-
pied by Warden E. H. Dempsey and his
family.

The nurse awakened the warden, and
Slaughter forced all the family to march
into the prison and to the death house,
where he locked them in the cell that
had been his. He promised not to harm
them, and did not. On the contrary, he
frequently appeared before their cell
to ask how they were getting along, and
to take in a cup of coffee, with
cream, sugar and cups and saucers. He
then opened the outer gates of the peni-
tentiary, took his six companions and
went into the commissary, and set about
outfitting his gang for their escape.
They clothed themselves in complete
civilian outfits.

Armed They Flee in Motor Car.

With this done, Slaughter and his
gang took several revolvers belonging to
the prison, and then an automobile be-
longing to Mrs. Dempsey, first stripping
the three from a roadster belonging to a
son of the warden, to bind the convicts had
some other prisoners under direction of
the warden cut a hole in the flooring of
the death house and the warden escaped
from the cell. Then he telephoned to
Benton and Hot Springs, Little Rock and
other places asking that posses be sent
at once after the convicts.

JAPAN REPLIES FAVORABLY
ON FOUR POWER PROPOSAL

A SPIRIT of genuine optimism prevailed among the members of
the Japanese delegation to-night over the prospects of an
early and satisfactory settlement of the issues involved in
the conference.

Admiral Baron Kato, chief spokesman of the Japanese dele-
gation, said he is hoping to be back in Tokio by the time the Japanese
Parliament convenes, during the latter part of January. This would
mean he would have to leave Washington during the first week of
the new year, since it requires about twenty days to make the trip
to Tokio.

"Of course," Baron Kato added, "I will remain in Washington
until the conference comes to a close. It is simply a hope I have
that it will be possible for me to be back in Japan when the Par-
liament convenes. We have not yet, however, engaged passage."

The expectation that the conference would not be long drawn
out followed the receipt of a despatch from Tokio to the members
of the delegation setting forth the Japanese position with regard
to the proposed "Four Power" agreement. Baron Kato, beyond ad-
mitting that the message had reached Washington, would not discuss
the details. There was every indication that the Japanese reply,
having been received so promptly, is entirely favorable to the pro-
posal, the details of which are to be left to Baron Kato and the
other members of the Japanese delegation.

Baron Kato stated officially that the Japanese delegation is ready
to go ahead with the settlement of the naval questions quite inde-
pendently of any "four Power" agreement that is worked out by the
conference. He said this had always been the policy of the Japanese
delegation and that it would continue to be the policy.

Up to this time, Baron Kato said, there has been no communica-
tion from the Japanese Government giving approval of the 5-5-3 ratio.

MILITARY EXPENSES
CUT BY CONFERENCE

Opening of Arms Parley Re-
sults in Big Saving
Throughout World.

NAVAL WORK HALTING
CRUX OF BIG SITUATION

Expenditures of Principal Na-
tions Annually for Defence
Reached \$4,500,000,000.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau,
Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.

The United States and other prin-
cipal nations were spending a total of
\$4,500,000,000 a year to keep their
armies and navies in fighting trim up
to the opening of the Conference for
the Limitation of Armament, Pacific
and Far East questions. The opening
of the conference, it was shown here
to-day, has had the effect of reducing
these expenditures.

The decision of England to halt
work on her four new super-dread-
noughts, cut expenses. In addition,
reductions have been made in the ex-
penditures for naval and military pur-
poses by this country and England in-
directly in anticipation of probable
results of the conference.

During the fiscal year ended in June
the expenses charged to the Army and
Navy departments by the United States
Treasury Department totaled nearly \$2,000,000,000. In England expenses of
maintaining the army and navy, ex-
clusive of the air force, ran more than
\$1,000,000,000.

Large expenditures were made by
France, Italy and Japan during the cor-
responding governmental fiscal year.
France, with standing army of more
than 800,000 men throughout the last
year, reported the greatest land defence
disbursement; England's army, main-
tained at nearly 600,000 men, cost al-
most as much as that of France.

These reports now available in Wash-
ington indicate the extent to which the
Highways plan for a ten year naval hol-
iday and other relief that may be agreed
upon by delegates to the conference will
lighten the tax burdens of the people of
Europe.

In England a tax is paid by all per-
sons on incomes of \$500 or more a year.
This slow level of net income was in-
troduced while governmental expendi-
tures were rising as a result of the
war.

Since the armistice there has not
been a material lowering of the Brit-
ish income tax rate which is 15 per
cent. in the normal scale. Surtaxes
in England are fixed on a scale that
requires the individual earning \$8,000
a year to turn over almost one-third
of his income to the Government. In
many cases wealthy landowners are
disposing of their estates to relieve
them of the burden of paying taxes.

In France indirect taxation has multi-
plied to an extent that requires the
taxing of about one-half of the
purchases made by the average fam-
ily. The Government is preparing to
introduce new forms of direct taxation,
according to the plans of the Ministry.

WORLD PEACE AIM

Substitute for Anglo-
Japanese Alliance
Lacks Only Ap-
proval of U. S.

NO MILITARY FEATURE

Signatories to Respect, but
Not Guarantee Terri-
torial Rights.

MEDIATION IS PROVIDED

China Wants to Enter Concert
—Senatorial Indorsement
Is Being Offered.

By LOUIS SEIBOLD.
Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau,
Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.

The unexpected announcement to-
night that a plenary session of the
international conference would be
held at 11 o'clock to-morrow morning
prepared Washington for decisive
action to insure permanent peace
throughout the world.

Beyond the statement that the
fourth public session of the confer-
ence would be convened there was no
official information furnished regard-
ing the subjects to be considered. The
most definite information obtainable
is that the four Power arrangement
for preserving peace in the Pacific
will be revealed in outline and per-
haps text, although it is learned to-
night that the new agreement which
is to supersede the objectionable
Anglo-Japanese alliance has not been
reduced to final form.

Naval Ratio Still Tied Up.

There is no authoritative infor-
mation that the naval ratio agreement
by the United States, Great Britain
and Japan will be ready for submis-
sion to the conference for discussion
and approval. The Japanese dele-
gates had not up to tonight notified
the American delegates that the deci-
sion of the Tokio Government in the
matter had been received.

It is improbable that the investi-
gation of the tangled affairs of China
will have progressed far enough to
permit conclusive action at to-mor-
row's session.

The impression does prevail, how-
ever, that action on all of the im-
portant undertakings on the con-
ference agenda will follow in rapid se-
quence the deliberations in to-mor-
row's session.

Some of the British and French
delegates are confident that the
work of the conference will be com-
pleted in time for them to leave for
their homes in the next ten days.
The American delegates will not ven-
ture any predictions because of the
uncertainties surrounding Asiatic
perplexities.

Senatorial Satisfaction.

Guarded admissions made by the
delegates indicate a highly satisfac-
tory state of mind regarding the
prospects for agreeable conclusions.
This satisfaction is expressed, to
some extent, by members of the
United States Senate, who have been
consulted by the American delegates.
These Senators are convinced that
the diplomatic instruments to be em-
ployed in working out the reforms
of world importance will be sub-
mitted to the Senate for approval,
whether they be in the form of treat-
ies or agreements.

Most of the activity and discus-
sion among conference delegates to-
day related directly to the new
quadruple arrangement for preserv-
ing peace in the Pacific. Great Brit-
ain, Japan and France have notified
one another of the acceptance of the
plan generally credited to Mr. Bal-
four of Great Britain for providing
a satisfactory substitute for the An-
glo-Japanese alliance, the perpetua-
tion of which is opposed by this Gov-
ernment.

The United States has not finally
instanced its acceptance of the Bal-
four plan, although it has indicated
its acceptance of the principle. The
American delegation announced this
afternoon that no conclusions had
been reached. Admission was made
by a member of the delegation, how-
ever, that preliminary discussion of
the plan had been under considera-
tion for several days.

The British, Japanese and French
delegates all expressed confidence to-
night that before the plenary session
to-morrow the exact terms of the
agreement will have been settled to
the satisfaction of the United States.
The most reasonable versions of the